

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 3149 - HB 3483

March 11, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates the “AAR,” the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation’s (TBI) database for animal abuser registration, verification, and tracking information. Defines “animal abuser”, “animal abuse offense”, and “conviction” relative to the AAR. Establishes the procedure by which an abuser, convicted in Tennessee or another state, must register with local law enforcement agencies and the TBI. Specifies the information required on the TBI registration form. Specifies TBI requirements for photographing and disseminating information about the abuser. Requires an initial registration fee of \$275, which may be waived in certain circumstances. Requires the registering law enforcement agency to retain \$25 of the fee.

Requires the TBI to maintain a connection to the AAR for all criminal justice agencies with Tennessee Information Enforcement System (TIES) internet capabilities to enable registering agencies to enter abuser registration data. Authorizes an administrative fee of no more than \$100 to be paid by the abuser and retained by the registering agency to defray specified costs.

Requires TBI to develop procedures for tracking homeless registered abusers. Requires TBI to place AAR information on the Bureau’s website as public information, and to operate a toll-free telephone number to enable members of the public to call and inquire about individuals listed as abusers. Establishes which information is considered public information.

Establishes procedures regarding TBI’s receipt of an abuser’s request for termination of active supervision on probation, parole, or any other alternative to incarceration. Classifies as a Class E felony, punishable by fine only, the failure of an abuser to timely register; falsification of TBI registration form; failure to timely disclose required information; failure to sign a TBI registration form; failure to pay the registration fee or annual administrative costs, if financially able; failure to disclose status as an animal abuser to law enforcement if reincarcerated; failure to timely report to the designated law enforcement agency upon release after reincarceration; failure to timely report following re-entry into this state after deportation; and failure to timely report when the abuser moves to another state. Requires TBI to remove all data pertaining to a deceased abuser.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$25,000/One-Time
\$5,000/Recurring**

SB 3149 - HB 3483

Assumptions:

- According to the TBI, the Bureau will add the AAR to the existing Sex Offender Registry. The cost to modify the existing software will result in a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$12,000.
- According to TBI, the Bureau will purchase supplies, including creating and distributing the registry forms, resulting in a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$8,000.
- TBI will advertise the AAR system during FY12-13, resulting in a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$5,000.
- TBI will maintain the system, host the toll-free telephone number, and purchase yearly supplies, resulting in a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$5,000.
- The total one-time increase in state expenditures is \$25,000 (\$12,000 + \$8,000 + \$5,000).
- According to the Department of Correction, there were no admissions for aggravated cruelty of animals during the past 10 years. As a result, any increase in state and local fee revenue as a result of court cost collections will not be significant.
- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee's 2008 study of incarceration costs and fines, collection of fines for felony offenders is negligible. There will not be a significant increase in state revenue as a result.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/sbh